March 8, 2010

Public Service Commission of South Carolina ATT: Docketing Dept. P.O. Drawer 11649 Columbia, SC 29211

RE: Docket # 209-489-E

To The Public Service Commissioner:

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I am writing this letter in reference to Docket # 3009-489-E. I am on total disability & live on a fixed, low income. I just purchased a condo/townhouse & will have SCE&G as my utility provider. I just learned about the pending 2.5% rate hike that SCE&G has been approved for. I would have moved to another area that uses Berkeley Cooperative which has lower rates if I knew about the increase previously. This rate increase will be for 2.5% annually for the next ten years. The rates were raised in 2008 by 4.4% so I never expected SCE&G to do this to the public during such tough economic times. I am outraged over SCE& G's decision & plead with the Office of Regulatory Staff or the Public Service Commissioner to stop this increase. The other utility companies manage on lower rates. I will be forced to turn off my lights, sweat in the summer & freeze in the winter because I will have to use a limited amount of electricity at these rates. This may cause me to not be able to afford my bills, or to be able to keep the condo/townhouse. SCE&G will be hurting themselves in the long run because most customers will be unable to afford the electric & gas bills & will have to stop using what they have previously. This is truly a sad situation that SCE&G is causing.

Yours truly,

Maureen Thomas

Maureen Thomas

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CLERK'S OFFICE